

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the China Grove Town Council

**Tuesday, January 6, 2009
7:00 p.m.**

**China Grove Town Hall
China Grove, North Carolina**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bringle called the meeting of January 6, 2009 to order. Mayor Bringle called roll. All council members were present, there was a quorum. The meeting started at 7:00 pm at the Municipal Building.

Mr. Lyseski made a motion to adopt the agenda for the regular meeting of the Town Council on January 6, 2009. Mr. Welter seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Lyseski made a motion to adopt the minutes for the regular meeting of the Town Council on December 2, 2009. Mr. Welter seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENT

Alan Corriher – 503 Stevens Street

Mr. Corriher commended the Town for another successful “Journey to Bethlehem”. He mentioned a pine tree at the community building that is close to falling and in danger of hitting the community building and asked that the town attend to this matter. He also stated that there is an asphalt path that parallels Cedar Street that functions as a sidewalk. He stated that the tree roots have heaved this path and it is need of repair due to the unevenness and recommends removing the path to resolve the problem. He stated that Cedar Street is a wide street and it might be possible to mark off a section on the street to allow a walkway.

Mayor Bringle thanked Mr. Corriher for his comments and concerns.

PUBLIC HEARING

I) CDBG Closeout

Mr. Michael Walser, on behalf of the CDBG project, was present to update the council. He stated that an audit has been performed and they have been asked to move forward with the closeout process of the state grant. He stated that by February 9, 2009, the closeout needs to be presented to the state, including the minutes from the night's meeting. He stated that these funds were expended in last fiscal year. He stated that this will allow the Town of China Grove to apply for additional funding.

Mayor Bringle opened the Public Hearing in reference to the closeout of the CDBG project.

Mrs. Masagee stated that she speaks in favor of additional funds for the repairs to the railroad crossing on Church Street.

Mayor Bringle closed the Public Hearing.

NEW BUSINESS

I) Appointments for the Planning Board and the Board of Adjustment

Ms. Emily Jackson presented information pertaining to the positions available for the Planning Board and Board of Adjustment that was provided to the council in their packets. She reviewed the applicants.

Mayor Bringle addressed the Board of Adjustment positions first and asked for nominations and recommendations. Members appointed to these positions will run terms to expire December 31, 2010.

Mr. Lyseski made a motion to appoint Ms. Brie Bivens to the Board of Adjustment (Town Limits). Mr. Withers seconded the motion. Mr. Bivens abstained from the vote. The motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Withers made a motion to appoint Mr. Charles Collins to the Board of Adjustment (ETJ). Mr. Bivens seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Overcash made a motion to appoint Mr. Arthur Higgins to the Board of Adjustment (Town Limits). Mr. Lyseski seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Members appointed to the Planning Board will run terms to expire December 31, 2011.

Mr. Withers made a motion to appoint Mr. Harry Corriher to the Planning Board (ETJ). Mr. Bivens seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Bivens made a motion to appoint Mrs. Kathy Karelitz to the Planning Board (ETJ). Mr. Withers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Withers made a motion to appoint Mr. Clyde Richards to the Planning Board (Town Limits). Mr. Overcash seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Withers made a motion to appoint Mr. Demien Stewart to the Planning Board (Town Limits). Mr. Lyseski seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Withers made a motion to appoint Mrs. Linda Williams to the Planning Board (Town Limits). Mr. Overcash seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

II) Resolution in Opposition to the Transfer of State Owned Secondary Roads to Municipalities

Mr. Pless stated that the 21st Century Transportation Committee made a recommendation that each municipality take over the secondary roads in their municipal boundaries. He stated that he is aware that the Town of Landis passed a similar resolution last night and this resolution is similar to the City of Salisbury. He stated that he believes that local government will be united across the state to oppose this transfer.

Mr. Welter stated that he doesn't believe that this should be done again since they did this once in the "Mill Hill" area and those roads were in terrible condition.

Mr. Lyseski made a motion to approve the Resolution in Opposition to the Transfer of State Owned Secondary Roads to Municipalities. Mr. Welter seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

III) Resolution to Support Traffic Signal at the Intersection of NC Hwy 29 and Bostian Road

Mr. Pless stated that the town council expressed the need for the following resolution due to the limited site distances and the growth in this area and will show that Landis and China Grove are united in this quest.

Mr. Welter stated that he does not believe that the one at Hwy 29 and Bostian Road is necessary at this time and feels the interest should be invested in the efforts to get a traffic signal at the school intersection.

Mr. Lyseski made a motion to approve the Resolution to Support Traffic Signal at the Intersection of NC Hwy 29 and Bostian Road. Mr. Withers seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-1 with Mr. Welter casting the opposing vote.

IV) Resolution to Support Traffic Signal at the Intersection of NC Hwy 152 and Kress Venture Drive

Mr. Pless stated that he wanted to be sure to express the emphasis for the need of a traffic signal at Kress Venture Drive and NC Hwy 152 as well.

Mayor Bringle explained to the community that the council has been in great support of the traffic signal

Mr. Withers made a motion to approve the Resolution to Support Traffic Signal at the Intersection of NC Hwy 152 and Kress Venture Drive. Mr. Welter seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

V) Memorandum for Discussion – South Rowan High School JROTC

Mr. Pless stated that he was presented with this request from the SRHS JROTC (He noted that there were a few date errors within the document and made clarification). He stated that it is the council's decision whether they wish to donate monetary funds to support their Drill Team.

Mrs. Bopp stated that \$400 is in the budget for SRHS and JCHS and the funds have not been issued as of date.

Mayor Bringle asked to table this item with a recommendation for the council at the next council meeting.

VI) CMAQ Viability Planning Study

Mr. Ketner stated that the sidewalk grant project preliminary study has been provided in their packets. He stated that the state has provided a fast track plan with the town's costs being around \$130,000 to construct the sidewalks that have been provided in the map.

Mr. Welter asked how long it will take to get the money.

Mr. Pless stated that it will be administered through the State of NC. He stated that the funds should be available by October 1, 2009 and possibly sooner due to the fast track option.

Mayor Bringle stated that these maps were drawn up several years ago and asked if these maps are current with the growth within the town.

Mr. Pless stated that this project was setup through the MPO. He stated that if it is changed, it will have to go back through the MPO monitoring process. He stated that if it is changed, it can not be changed back.

Mayor Bringle asked about the size of the sidewalk and the concerns that the public will have.

Mr. Pless stated that there will be time spent on designing the project and mapping out the right-of-ways to define and clearly establish these areas. He stated that the map indicates the incorrect side for the sidewalk and this, along with other items, will be corrected during the mapping/planning stage.

Mayor Bringle advised that they set a separate meeting that all property owners that will be affected, be invited to attend and ask questions.

Mr. Pless stated that once they advance into the design stage in the summer time, it would be a good time to hold that type of meeting.

Mr. Welter stated that it would be a good idea to do meetings in sections to allow a smaller group to ask questions.

Mayor Bringle asked where the funds will come from.

Mr. Pless stated that this will come from Powell Bill funds. He stated that money has been set aside in the past few fiscal years to manage these costs. He stated that the expenses will most likely be spread over several fiscal years including this fiscal year.

Mr. Welter made a motion to fast track the CMAQ Viability Study Plan for the sidewalks in China Grove in the outline provided. Mr. Lyseski seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mayor Bringle thanked the subcommittee that has met pertaining to this item.

OLD BUSINESS

D) Carpeting at Town Hall and Police Department

Mr. Ketner stated that he has received some cost estimates for the Police Department. He stated that the cost estimates are from \$8-9,000.

Mayor Bringle stated that they would receive three bids when moving forward.

Mr. Pless stated that they wanted to be sure that they had an idea what to expect when moving forward.

Mr. Lyseski made a motion to move forward with the carpet study for the Police and Administration not to exceed \$9,000.

Mr. Welter asked Mr. Ketner to also look at laminate flooring due to the durability.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Bringle asked where the Fire Department is in the bidding process for the new fire truck.

Mr. Gledhill stated that this item should be complete mid-February.

Mayor Bringle asked that the council consider the brush policy and compare to other local municipalities.

Mr. Pless stated that he provided a copy of a proposed resolution pertaining to opposing the expansion of the rail corridor along the NC railroad in China Grove. He stated that he doesn't know all of the details.

Mr. Withers stated that he had this item passed to him from Rep. Steen.

Mr. Welter stated that he has been involved with this for a number of years. He stated that he does not feel that he owes anyone taxes or money for owning property along the railroad tracks.

Mayor Bringle stated that he would like to see this item added to the agenda to the next council meeting.

Mr. Pless asked the council to look at setting a date for the planning retreat that will be facilitated by Mr. Ron Niland.

The planning retreat was set for 8:00 am on Saturday, January 31, 2009. Information will be provided to the council.

Mayor Bringle recognized Mr. Carl Ford, Rowan County Commissioner, and thanked him for being present.

ADJOURN

Mr. Lyseski made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Overcash seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amanda A. Eller, Town Clerk

Donald E. Bringle, Mayor